

Division of Medical Assistance
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Office of Medicaid

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Under the authority of M.G.L. c. 6A, section 16 and in accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A, the Division of Medical Assistance (the Division) will hold a remote public hearing on Tuesday, September 12, 2023, at 11 a.m. relative to the adoption of amendments to the following regulation.

130 CMR 457.000: Freestanding Birth Center Services

The proposed regulation is planned to go into effect no sooner than January 5, 2024. There is no fiscal impact on cities and towns.

The proposed regulation 130 CMR 457.000 is a standalone provider regulation for freestanding birth center (FBC) services that sets forth the requirements, conditions, and limitations for MassHealth-covered FBC services. It includes, among other things, provisions regarding the following areas:

- Provider eligibility requirements to enroll as a MassHealth provider of such services;
- Conditions of payment for such services;
- Member eligibility requirements for the receipt of such services;
- Requirements and limitations for the delivery of such services;
- Administrative requirements related to the delivery of such services; and
- Other requirements related to the provision of such services, including recordkeeping.

To register to testify at the hearing and to get instructions on how to join the hearing online, go to www.mass.gov/service-details/masshealth-public-hearings. To join the hearing by phone, call (646) 558-8656 and enter meeting ID 935 397 8200# when prompted.

You may also submit written testimony instead of, or in addition to, live testimony. To submit written testimony, please email your testimony to masshealthpublicnotice@mass.gov as an attached Word or PDF document or as text within the body of the email with the name of the regulation in the subject line. All written testimony must include the sender's full name, mailing address, and organization or affiliation, if any. Individuals who are unable to submit testimony by email should mail written testimony to EOHHS, c/o D. Briggs, 100 Hancock Street, 6th Floor, Quincy, MA

02171. Written testimony will be accepted through 5:00 p.m. on September 12, 2023. The Division specifically invites comments as to how the amendments may affect beneficiary access to care.

To review the current draft of the proposed regulation, go to www.mass.gov/service-details/masshealth-public-hearings or request a copy in writing from MassHealth Publications, 100 Hancock Street, 6th Floor, Quincy, MA 02171.

Special accommodation requests may be directed to the Disability Accommodations Ombudsman by email at ADAaccommodations@mass.gov or by phone at (617) 847-3468 (TTY: (617) 847-3788 for people who are deaf, hard of hearing, or speech disabled). Please allow two weeks to schedule sign language interpreters.

The Division may adopt a revised version of the proposed regulation taking into account relevant comments and any other practical alternatives that come to its attention.

In case of inclement weather or other emergency, hearing cancellation announcements will be posted on the MassHealth website at www.mass.gov/service-details/masshealth-public-hearings.

August 18, 2023